

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF MR.
GLENN J. WILLIAMS

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a good friend of mine and a loyal champion of Second Amendment rights, Mr. Glenn J. Williams of Greenbush, Michigan. Glenn is the Founder and Executive Director of the Michigan Big Game Hunters Association, an organization which is widely recognized as the proud voice of the many hunters in the great state of Michigan. In fact, Mr. Speaker, I believe it would be fair to say that Glenn's strong commitment to big game hunting and the outdoors is only overshadowed by the many admirers and friends he has in Michigan and throughout the United States.

Glenn was born in Detroit, Michigan and graduated from Dearborn High School, where he lettered in baseball and track and was Captain of the cross country team. He later graduated from Henry Ford Community College and attended the University of Kentucky and University of Michigan. When Glenn was asked to serve his country, he did so without hesitation and served admirably in the United States Army. He later went on to a very successful career as a financial analyst with Ford Motor Company.

As long as I have known Glenn, I have known him to be a dedicated husband and a committed family man. In 1967, Glenn married Grace A. Dansbury, an exemplary role model and devoted mother to their daughter, Marcy. They recently fulfilled their lifelong dream of building a beautiful home on Cedar Lake in Greenbush, Michigan. There, Grace and Glenn enjoy their other hobbies, fishing and golf. And of course, they enjoy watching their two favorite teams, the Detroit Pistons and the Detroit Tigers, with their family and numerous friends.

Not only is Glenn a dedicated family man, but his formidable hunting skills have earned him many awards, and he holds a number of hunting records across our country. In the Safari Club International Record Book, he holds six records for whitetail deer, and two state records in Ohio. Glenn won the 1992 and 1993 Commemorative Bucks of Michigan Scoring Awards, and he received the "Don Bonafide Memorial Award", named after one of the founders of the Commemorative Bucks of Michigan.

Glenn's formidable hunting skills have earned him the respect of hunters everywhere, but it is his leadership and work in protecting the rights of the hunting community which have earned him the admiration of all those who enjoy the outdoors. Some years ago, Glenn asked for my support, which I was pleased to give, in founding the Coalition of Michigan Sportsmen. With Glenn's typical energetic style and relentless perseverance, he has made this organization a strong advocate for hunters' rights and wildlife conservation efforts, and I, along with hunters everywhere, appreciate his tireless efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I invite you and our colleagues to join with me in commending Glenn Williams for his work on behalf of our many hunters in Michigan and in our country. I can state without reservation that Glenn has been a power-

ful advocate on behalf of sportsmen everywhere, and those of us who seek to protect all Americans' Second Amendment rights.

INTRODUCTION OF H. RES. 464 CALLING FOR THE MAGEN DAVID ADOM SOCIETY'S ADMIT- TANCE INTO THE INTER- NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a distinguished group of co-sponsors, I am introducing today a resolution calling for a reaffirmation of congressional support for the admittance of the Magen David Adom Society as a full member into the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

The Magen David Adom Society, an Israeli relief agency that is equivalent to the American Red Cross, has served countless people in need from many nations for over seventy years. The Magen David Adom Society has given this aid to individuals regardless of race, religion or nationality. In the last year alone, Magen David Adom Society members were directly involved in relief work in Kosovo, Greece, Turkey and Indonesia. They were also invaluable in helping American relief agencies in the wake of the tragic bombings of our embassies in Kenya and Tanzania in 1998.

It might come as a shock then that, while the national organizations of countries such as Iraq, Libya, and North Korea are all full members of the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, the Magen David Adom Society is not. Why has the Magen David Adom Society been denied membership in the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement since 1949? The answer to this question is simple, and sadly enough, political. The Magen David Adom Society has fulfilled the criteria for full membership, but has requested recognition of the Shield of David as its symbol. Out of respect for the sensibilities of Egypt, Turkey and other Islamic member nations, the International Movement has accepted the Red Crescent as a joint symbol, but has been unwilling to do the same for the Israel's Shield of David.

Israel's opponents have politicized the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent against her, a practice the American Red Cross describes as "an injustice of the highest order." The American Red Cross has repeatedly sought to have the Magen David Adom Society admitted as part of the International Movement, but has been thwarted by the political prejudices of a small number of nations.

In 1987, Congress affirmed its support for the Magen David Adom Society by requesting that they be admitted to the International Movement as full members. After 13 years, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is still dragging its feet on the issue, and the Israeli relief agency remains the victim of politics. We must reinforce our support for this praiseworthy organization by adopting this resolution and letting the other members of the International Movement know that we do

not look favorably on political bias in international humanitarian organizations.

The following is an excerpt from the International Statutes of the Movement. "The International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent makes no discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions. The Movement may not take sides in hostilities or engage at any time in controversies of a political, racial, religious or ideological nature."

Along with my colleagues, I believe in the ideals expressed in the Statutes. We call on all members of the Movement to live up to its high standards of providing relief to people in need around the world in an effective and impartial fashion, by admitting the Magen David Adom Society of Israel and according it all the appropriate protections under international law.

I submit the full text of this measure to be printed in the RECORD:

H. RES. 464

Whereas Israel's Magen David Adom Society has provided emergency relief to people in many countries in times of need, pain, and suffering since 1930, regardless of nationality or religious affiliation;

Whereas in the past year alone, the Magen David Adom Society has provided invaluable services in Kosovo, Indonesia, and Kenya following the bombing of the United States Embassy in Kenya, and in the wake of the earthquakes that devastated Greece and Turkey;

Whereas the American Red Cross has recognized the superb and invaluable work done by the Magen David Adom Society and considers the exclusion of the Magen David Adom Society from the International Committee of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement "an injustice of the highest order";

Whereas the American Red Cross has repeatedly urged that the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement recognize the Magen David Adom Society as a full member;

Whereas the Magen David Adom Society utilizes the Red Shield of David as its emblem, in similar fashion to the utilization of the Red Cross and Red Crescent by other national societies;

Whereas the Red Cross and the Red Crescent have been recognized as protected symbols under the Statutes of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement;

Whereas the International Committee of the Red Cross has ignored previous requests from the United States Congress to recognize the Magen David Adom Society;

Whereas the Statutes of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement state that it "makes no discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions" and it "may not take sides in hostilities or engage at any time in controversies of a political, racial, religious or ideological nature";

Whereas although similar national organizations of Iraq, North Korea, and Afghanistan are recognized as full members of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the Magen David Adom Society has been denied membership since 1949; and

Whereas in fiscal year 1999 the United States Government provided \$119,400,000 to the International Committee of the Red Cross and \$7,300,000 to the Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the International Committee of the Red Cross should immediately recognize the Magen David Adom Society and the Magen